

“advocacy,
capacity building,
and systemic change”



State Council on Developmental Disabilities/Area Board 6

Area Connection

**Special Edition
June, 2005**

Area 6 Developmental Disabilities Board



2529 W March Lane, Ste 105 Stockton, CA 95207

Phone: 209-473-6930 Email: ab6@scdd.ca.gov

Website: www.areaboard6.ca.gov

SCDD Appoints Alan Kerzin As Executive Director

Alan Kerzin, who has devoted 25 years of his professional life to improving the lives of persons with developmental disabilities in California, was named Executive Director of the State Council on Developmental Disabilities (SCDD). He will assume the post on June 15, 2005. Kerzin was selected by the 29-member, Governor-appointed Council, that is composed of individuals with a developmental disability, parents and family members of people with developmental disabilities and representatives of state agencies that provide services to individuals with developmental disabilities. Senator Wesley Chesbro, who chairs the Senate Select Committee on Developmental Disabilities, said, “Alan’s extensive experience within California’s developmental disabilities service system will serve the Council well. As the Executive Director of Area Board IV, Alan set a high standard in establishing an area board that excelled in providing systemic advocacy, education and technical assistance services to the community.” “I am thrilled and honored to be chosen for this position,” said Kerzin. “It is quite a challenge.” Kerzin currently serves as Deputy Director of Area Board Operations, overseeing 13 Area Board offices.

Kathy Barnes Appointed Executive Director for Area Board 6

From Peter Mendoza, Chairperson, SCDD

I am pleased to announce the appointment of Kathy Barnes as Executive Director of the Area Board 6 Office of the State Council. Kathy is well known to the catchment Area 6 community, having begun her service to Area Board 6 in 1991 as a Community Program Specialist. She became LQA Coordinator in 1997, and most recently also served as the lead staff since Bob Phillips moved to the Area Board 4 Office. We welcome Kathy in her new role, and know that the consumers and families of Amador, Calaveras, Tuolumne, San Joaquin and Stanislaus Counties are in most capable hands.

From Kathy Barnes, Executive Director, Area Board 6

The essential challenge of the disability community remains the same—to live as first class citizens. People want to have meaningful lives and fulfilling relationships, as they learn, work, and have fun in their communities. The Area 6 Board has been dedicated to helping people realize that quality of life, and our commitment will not change. Over the last 7 years, I’ve had the privilege of learning the life stories of thousands of people who use services in our area, through the Life Qualify Assessment project. I’ve seen both the tremendous successes of our educational and service systems and also, the significant inadequacies. I am honored by this exciting new challenge in the work of our shared mission, to expand life opportunity for people we serve.

Area Board 6 Welcomes New Members!

Janine Lodato, Calaveras County

John Lundberg, Calaveras County

Hanna Kassis, San Joaquin County

**Dena Hernandez Designated
New Area Board 6 LQA Coordinator**

Well known to the Area Board 6 community, Dena Hernandez has assumed leadership of the Life Quality Assessment Project. Dena has served at the Board for seven years, first as a community advocate and then staff to the LQA project. She is a major contributor to the annual Choices conference. Dena is also recognized for her outstanding contributions to the self advocacy movement.

Save the date—

Next Area 6 Board Meeting

July 26, 2005

Check the website for meeting info!

Area Self Advocacy Meeting

Friday, August 5, 2005 10 AM

1904 Quail Lakes Drive Stockton, CA

Supported Life 2005 Conference

October 5—7 Sacramento, CA

Call 916 576 1974 for registration info

Special Olympics Northern California Summer Games Come to Stockton!

Stockton, California will host the 2005 Special Olympics Northern California Summer Games the weekend of June 10th. Approximately 1,000 athletes from Northern California will compete in: aquatics, bocce, tennis, track & field or volleyball. Competition will begin on Friday evening with Opening Ceremonies at the new Ports stadium at Webber Point. Events will take place on Saturday and Sunday, June 11th and 12th, at San Joaquin Delta College, beginning at 9:00 am and concluding around, 5:00 pm on Saturday and 2:00 pm on Sunday. Bocce will be held at the Italian Athletic Club on Saturday and Sunday as well. All spectators welcome and at no cost.

Online advocacy training available now! Website: www.areaboard6.ca.gov



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